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[Inclosure.]

WASHINGTON, D. C., March 27, 1900.

MOST EXCELLENT SIR: Certain rumors having come to the notice of my Government which have been current in this country with regard to the existence of the bubonic plague on the island of Cozumel, belonging to the State of Yucatan. It has made suitable inquiry with a view of ascertaining whether those rumors have any foundation, and has learned positively that there has not been a single case of bubonic plague either at Cozumel or at any other place in the Republic. The president of the superior board of health of Mexico has communicated this information to Dr. Walter Wyman, Surgeon-General of the United States of America, and has added that, notwithstanding the above-mentioned fact, an order has been issued, in view of the advices received to the effect that cases of that plague have occurred in the Argentine Republic, to close the port of Cozumel to vessels from South American ports.

I have the honor, in pursuance of special instructions received from my Government, to confirm the aforesaid information to your excellency, to the end that you may be pleased, if you think proper, to give it such publicity as may seem to you to be best calculated to put a stop to those false alarms.

I take pleasure in reiterating to your excellency the assurances of my highest consideration.

M. de AZPIROZ.

Hon. SECRETARY OF STATE.

NETHERLANDS.

Buenos Ayres declared infected.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
Washington, D. C., April 2, 1900.

SIR: I have the honor, by direction of the Secretary of State, to inform you that the consul at Amsterdam reports in his dispatch of the 16th ultimo that the Dutch Government has declared Buenos Ayres an infected port.

Respectfully,

THOS. W. CRIDLER,
Third Assistant Secretary.

Hon. SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY.

Report from Rotterdam.

ROTTERDAM, NETHERLANDS, March 26, 1900.

SIR: I have the honor to report that for the week ended March 24, 1900, 6 vessels were inspected and received bills of health at this port. The steamship *Rotterdam*, of the Holland-Amerika Line, sailed the 22d instant, carrying passengers and freight. She had 88 cabin and 640 steerage passengers and 300 pieces of baggage were inspected and labeled and 70 pieces were disinfected and labeled. The cargo contained 102 bales of disinfected rags.

The health of the port remains good.

Respectfully,

A. R. THOMAS,
Passed Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.

The SURGEON-GENERAL,
U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.

NORWAY.

The fight against tuberculosis in Norway.

[Report submitted by Victor E. Nelson, United States consul, at Bergen, February 6, 1900.]

BERGEN, February 6, 1900.

November last year Dr. Claus Hansen, of Bergen, delivered a lecture before the Storting (Congress) at Christiania on the causes of tuber-